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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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On

Jan 8, 2002

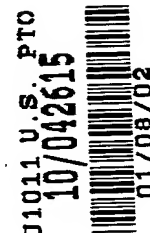
TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

Commie Simon

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 040006-000000US
Client Reference No.: 18003US CONT1

[Handwritten signature]



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Philippe Monblanc

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 8, 2002

For: DEVICE FOR HOLDING A SOLID
IN A TUBE, AND TEST KIT USING
SUCH A DEVICE

Examiner:

Art Unit:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and
§1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

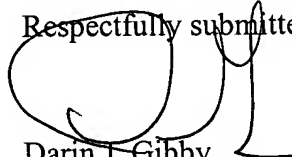
Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Darin J. Gibby
Reg. No. 38,464

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 303-571-4000
Fax: 303-571-4321
DJG/cl

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **3** of **3**

Complete if Known

Application Number
Filing Date January 8, 2002
First Named Inventor Philippe Monblanc
Art Unit
Examiner Name
Attorney Docket Number 040006-000000US

31011 U.S. PTO
10/042615
01/08/02

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|----------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
| | AA | US-2,982,377 | | 5-2-61 | Eames | |
| | BB | US-3,411,629 | | 11-19-68 | Wilber et al. | |
| | BC | US-3,870,492 | | 3-11-75 | Guild | |
| | BD | US-4,350,037 | | 9-21-82 | Higham | |
| | BE | US- | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|----------------|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | BF | France | 2 484 283 | | 12-18-81 | Marc Jean Michel | | |
| | BG | Germany | 35 39 446 | | 11-7-85 | Andrewjewski | | |
| | CA | | | | | | | |
| | CB | | | | | | | |

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials * | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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